

Dr. Jagan was educated at Howard University and Northwestern University in the United States and returned to Guyana in 1946 to begin a remarkable political odyssey. In 1950, he founded the People's Progressive Party and, in April 1953, he headed the first democratically elected government in Guyana's history. In 1957, and again in 1961, he became Chief Minister of the Government. In 1964, he became a leader of the Parliamentary Opposition, and in October 1992, he was elected President of Guyana. On March 6, 1997, this monumental political figure passed away at the Walter Reed hospital in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Cheddie Jagan lived in a period of profound repression during the Cold War. Regrettably, the government of the United States played a significant role in destabilizing the government of Cheddie Jagan. In 1953, it persuaded the British Government to suspend the constitution; in 1955, it helped to split the national movement; and, in 1962, it helped to provoke civil disturbances. This tribute is a small attempt to atone for this gross miscarriage of justice.

Through all these political vicissitudes, Dr. Jagan maintained a constant and unwavering commitment to the cause of the Guyana working class, to the concept of working class unity and to the principles of constitutional democracy. In spite of overwhelming odds, Cheddie Jagan, like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., ultimately believed that "truth pressed to earth will rise again" and that "the arm of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice."

#### IN LOVING MEMORY OF ADOLFO RIBERA

#### HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 16, 2000*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with much sadness that I inform my colleagues of the passing of a great individual, a person who graced our world and our lives with so much love and compassion and family value.

Adolfo Ribera, the husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, passed away on May 12, 2000 in Barstow, California. He was 76 years of age. Born in Walfenburg, Colorado and raised in Ribera, New Mexico and husband of Aurelia Ribera.

He was a member of the St. Joseph's Catholic Church, a WWII Veteran in the Philippines, worked for the Santa Fe Railroad for thirty one years and a former member of the Sheet Metal Workers Union. He was an avid baseball player and known as an outstanding softball fast-pitch player. He and I were teammates and the teams we played on won many league championships. We played for the City's Softball Fast Pitch League in Barstow, California.

Adolfo lived a full and a very fulfilling life, a life graced by his wife, whom they were blessed with eight children: Ralph, Veronica, Elizabeth, Adolfo, Frances (deceased), William, Tina; and also blessed with twenty-two grand children, nine great grand children. These children brought tremendous joy and inspiration into his life.

He is survived by one brother: Eddie, and his brothers who are now deceased are: Hilario, Trinidad, Joe. Survived by four sisters:

Mary, Eloisa (daughter is Barbara married to Congressman JOE BACA), Piedad, Theresa and Frances who is now deceased.

Adolfo was and remains so much a tremendous person in our thoughts and in our memories. We appreciate so much and will long remember the many good and positive things he brought to his family and lives that he touched.

I join with Adolfo's friends and family members in honoring such a truly remarkable and outstanding person, a husband, father, grand father, great grandfather and to all those who loved him.

He was a strong person, the backbone to his family. He possessed honesty, strength, leadership and courage. He was considered a true friend in every sense of the word.

I join with all of those who loved Adolfo Ribera in extending our prayers to the family and hope that they find peace and comfort during this time of sorrow.

A Rosary will be cited at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, May 15, 2000, 7:00 p.m., 505 E. Mt. View, Barstow, California. The funeral will be at 9:00 a.m. also at the church.

#### TRIBUTE TO JAMES DALE WEST

#### HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 16, 2000*

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to pay tribute today to Los Angeles educator James Dale West for his more than four decades of service as a teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District. On Sunday, June 4, 2000, the Stovall Educational Uplift Foundation will honor Mr. West for his many years of dedicated service to the school children of Los Angeles. In recognition of his exemplary career, I am pleased to have this opportunity to publicly acknowledge his contributions to the school district, as well as to the Los Angeles community.

A native of Oklahoma, James Dale West graduated from Booker T. Washington High School, and attended Langston University, located in Langston, Oklahoma. He served in the United States military and after his tour of duty, entered California State Polytechnic University, where he met the woman who would become his wife, Ole Maye Daniel. The couple married in 1950, and James went on to earn two post-graduate degrees.

James Dale West began his career as an educator at Jackson High School in 1953. He remained at Jackson for fifteen years, before moving to Crenshaw High School and Manual Arts Adult School, where he still teaches today. In addition, he serves as the field representative for the Regional Occupational Program/Business Industrial School, which provides training for students at the job site. He also is president of the Association Career Education Center of Los Angeles.

Mr. West is a member of the Crenshaw United Methodist Church and is a chorister with the Crenshaw Sanctuary Choir; the Saint Mark United Methodist Sanctuary Choir; the United Methodist Men's Choir, and the Ecumenical Men's Chorus. He is also an avid traveler who has traveled to each of the fifty states, and visited forty country.

James and his lovely wife, Ole Maye, are the proud parents of three daughters: Dr. Gay

West Brown, Attorney Joy West, and Joil West. The couple also are blessed with four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to acknowledge the contributions of Los Angeles public school educator James Dale West. I ask that you join me in extending best wishes to him as he continues to impart his vast knowledge to the school children of Los Angeles.

MS. SANDRA MCGARY, PRINCIPAL,  
HARMONY LELAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

#### HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 16, 2000*

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I recognize Ms. Sandra McGary, principal of Harmony Leland Elementary School in Mableton, Georgia.

"Ms. McBeautiful," as she is affectionately known, challenged her students to read 10,000 books. She promised to play a fiddle and sing from the roof of the school if the students could rise to the challenge. The students reciprocated by reading not just 10,000 books, but well over 19,500 books! Ms. McGary, much to the amusement of the students and faculty, fulfilled her end of the bargain, by putting on a wedding gown and playing her violin from the roof of the school.

Since her arrival at Harmony Leland, the school has seen a "[. . .] resurgence of energy, enthusiasm, and community involvement [. . .]" She is an active member of the community, serving as an Ambassador to the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. She also designed the Academics Before Athletics program at North Cobb High School. Under her leadership, the school has been the first school in the nation to be named a Leonard Bernstein School of the Arts. Every student is given a violin as well as first rate instruction.

Ms. McGary has made education and community involvement her life's endeavor. I join the Mableton community in congratulating her for her efforts and wishing her well for many years to come.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY

#### HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 16, 2000*

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I honor child care providers across the nation on Provider Appreciation Day.

Provider Appreciation Day, which is celebrated on the Friday before Mother's Day, was spearheaded by a group of volunteers in New Jersey in 1966 who saw the need for a day to appreciate and recognize child care providers.

The contribution that child care providers make to the quality of family life in this country is immeasurable. With the changing nature of the workforce, more mothers are working than ever before. Often times, this means that more children must be placed in child care. According to recent surveys, there are approximately 13 million children in the United States under